

Church News

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the congregation in praise and sang the gospel message with strong appeal. God sent His Spirit in power, and heads of families, mothers, in some instances whole families, responded. Eighty-six have been added to this church up to this time, and there are others still to come. Numbers have been received by the other churches in the community. Every department of the church's life and activity has taken on new impetus, and we enter the new year with deep gratitude to God for His blessing.

H. M. Moffett.

PERSONAL

Rev. Rutherford Rowland Houston died last Friday in Richmond, at the home of his daughter, Mrs. W. A. Plecker. Mr. Houston was born in 1836 in Smyrna, Asia Minor. He was the oldest child of Rev. Samuel Rutherford Houston, at that time a missionary to Seio, an island in the Mediterranean, not far from Smyrna. On account of his health his parents had to bring him back to this country when he was four years of age. He was educated at Washington College and Union Theological Seminary. He was licensed and ordained by Greenbrier Presbytery in 1863. He served Salem, Carmel, Fincastle, Mountair Union, Amsterdam and New Castle in Montgomery Presbytery, and Cub Creek, Brookneal and Hat Creek in Roanoke Presbytery. After laboring in Roanoke he returned to Montgomery and again served some of the same churches he had served before. He was a man of scholarly attainments and a preacher of ability. He was a successful pastor, and a man of quiet disposition. He did not seek preferment, but was willing to give his fine attainments to small country churches. He was an earnest and faithful child of God and was greatly devoted to his work for the Master. Nine daughters and one son are left to sorrow over his departure, but they realize that he has gone to be with Jesus and to abide with him forever.

THE REFORMATION NUMBER OF THE UNION SEMINARY REVIEW, JANUARY, 1917.

The following table of contents will be of interest to the Protestant ministers of all denominations:

"The Luther Quadri-Centennial," by Rev. W. W. Moore, D. D., LL. D.

"Martin Luther," by Rev. David H. Bauslin, D. D., LL. D., dean of Wittenberg Theological Seminary (Lutheran), Springfield, Ohio.

"The Luther Literature," by Rev. Robert Hastings Nichols, D. D., professor of Church History in Auburn Theological Seminary.

"Zwingli and the Presbyterians," by Rev. James I. Good, D. D., LL. D., professor of Church History in the Central Theological Seminary (German Reformed), Dayton, Ohio.

"The Reformation and the Lord's Supper," by Rev. R. A. Webb, D. D., LL. D., professor of Theology in the Theological Seminary of Kentucky, Louisville, Ky.

"The Bible and the Reformation," by Rev. John Fox, D. D., secretary of the American Bible Society, New York.

"Growth in Grace—A Book Study of Second Peter," by Rev. E. C. Caldwell, D. D., professor of New Testament Interpretation in Union Theological Seminary, Richmond, Va.

Editorials, by Rev. Walter L. Lingle, D. D., professor of Church History in Union Theological Seminary, Richmond, Va.

Book reviews, by faculty and well-known ministers throughout the

THE PRESBYTERIAN OF THE SOUTH

[January 10, 1917]

Church. Many of these books will bear upon Luther and the Reformation.

The whole Protestant Church, the world over, will this year (1917) celebrate the four hundredth anniversary of Luther's theses.

Subscription price, \$1 for a year, or 25 cents single copy. Send your subscription, or order for single copies, to Business Manager, Union Seminary Review, Richmond, Va.

COLUMBIA THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY.

The Lectures on the Smyth Foundation, 1916-1917.

The lectures on the Smyth Foundation for 1916-1917 will be delivered by Rev. W. S. Plumer Bryan, a graduate of this Seminary of the class of 1878. The subject of the lectures is to be "The Grace of God." The six lectures called for by the foundation will present the subject so far as time permits, but the complete treatment of it must be reserved for the volume which is called for by the terms of the foundation. The standpoint is that of the historic faith, in its evangelical interpretation, as set forth in the standards of Westminster. The attitude taken is that, not of the systematic theologian, but of the pastor who has found in the grace of God the message for his own soul and for the people to whom in his ministry he has been called to preach the word.

Lecture 1, "The Religious Situation," undertakes a survey of the facts and forces and dangers and promise in the religion of today, with a view to ascertaining the place of the grace of God in the religions of modern times.

Lecture 2, "Grace," presents the Biblical conception of grace as it is found in the Old Testament and the New, and as related to the other ideas covered by this word. Modern Biblical science furnishes evidence that the historic conception of grace is well founded.

Lecture 3, "The Attribute of Grace," carries the inquiry into the Godhead and involves the personality of God, His attributes as the expression of His character, the specific attributes, and the distinctive place of the attribute of grace. The modern conceptions of the Fatherhood of God and the love of God fall under this head.

Lecture 4, "The Purposes of Grace," seeks to define purpose as it exists in the world against the theories of modern determinism to indicate the points at which the purpose of God and the purposes of men are unlike; and then to present definitely the purpose of grace—first in general and then in its particular aspects.

Lecture 5, "The Need of Grace," recognizes that grace is manifested only in response to need, and that need is to be ascertained before the work of grace can be defined. This need arises out of sin, to which the consciousness of man testifies; and sin, whatever else it involves, implies an infraction of moral law. The effect of this infraction constitutes man's need of grace.

Lecture 6, "The Work of Grace for Us," is understood to cover those movements which God has made for the relief of ill-deserving man as the subject of His broken law, these movements culminating in the redemption of Jesus Christ by his own death on the cross—he offered himself up as the sacrifice for the sins of men.

These lectures leave the subject incomplete, and the volume to be published will be followed by lectures on "The Work of Grace in Us," "The Work of Grace Through Us," "The Means of Grace," "The Kingdom of Grace," and "The Triumph of Grace."

IMPORTANT EDUCATIONAL MEETINGS.

The week of January 7 to 13, 1917, is a notable one for Christian education.

The Council of Church Boards of Education, the Association of American Colleges, the Association of Church Workers in State Universities, and various denominational groups of college presidents, will hold meetings in the city of Chicago during that week.

The Council of Church Boards of Education—composed of representatives from nineteen different denominations, with a total membership of over 17,000,000 communicants—meets at Hotel La Salle, Chicago, on the morning of January 10 and continues in session until Thursday evening. The special occasion of this gathering is the perfecting of plans for carrying forward the campaign for the Forward Movement for Christian Education. Rev. Henry H. Sweets, D. D., of the Southern Presbyterian Church, is president of the Council.

The Association of American Colleges convenes in annual session also at Hotel La Salle, Chicago, from Thursday evening, the 11th, until Saturday noon, the 13th of January. The program is very attractive to all interested in any form of Christian Education as well as in our American colleges.

A public exhibit of this campaign for Christian education will be displayed in the ballroom of the Hotel La Salle through the week. It will be a graphic presentation of interesting data of educational conditions and specific educational problems, with special reference to the State of Illinois.

Ralph D. Kyle.

PRESIDENT ASKED TO ACT.

At the regular meeting of the board of directors of the Anti-Saloon League of New York, on January 2, 1917, on motion of the State president, Dr. David J. Burrell, pastor of Marble Collegiate church, New York city, the following resolution was passed:

"Resolved, That the National Executive Committee of the Anti-Saloon League be requested, pending the adoption of a prohibition amendment to the Constitution of the United States, to petition President Woodrow Wilson to do upon this much more important issue, in behalf of the vastly larger constituency interested, substantially what he did in behalf of certain labor organizations—viz: that it petition the President to use his powerful influence with this Congress to secure the immediate enactment of the legislation which will accomplish national prohibition of the liquor traffic (which traffic can be taxed out of existence by mere majority vote of Congress) and secure provision by Congress for the appointment of a Federal commission to study the working of such national prohibition and report on its results."

"THE APE AS A NEW RELATION."

This is the title of an editorial which appeared in the New York Herald of December 30. We give it in full that our readers may see how wise the scientists are becoming. It is as follows:

"Of course no large scientific meeting could come on go without our old friend the ape cropping up as an ancestor of man and the question of the missing link getting due prominence, and the present session of the American Association for the Advancement of Science is true to type in this regard. A notable change of view has come over scientific thought in this matter in very recent years, however.

Above all, there is quite serious question now whether the ape is related to man by ascent or descent.

"One of the recent authoritative German publications, *Man and His Forerunners*" by Von. Buttel-Reepen, quotes Klaatsch, the well-known anthropologist, to the effect that 'the apes are to be regarded as degenerate branches of the pre-human stock.' Von Buttel-Reepen himself says that 'this conception can be crudely summarized in the statement, "Man is not descended from the apt, but the ape from man." There, the secret is out at last. We had gotten hold of the family strain from the wrong end before. Now everything is clearer. It must not be imagined, however, that this is a joke. It is quite serious science, written not for popular interest, but for scientists to ponder over."

One of the remarkable things about a certain class of scientists is that they are certain of their conclusions, and they always claim that science is necessarily absolutely consistent, and to take it for granted that the ordinary laymen will not notice that they are not consistent. For many years these scientists have been saying that man was descended from the ape, but now, as this article shows, they have changed their opinion and think that the ape is descended from man. We have no reason given us why they have changed their minds on the subject. We can understand, however, that they would much prefer being brothers of apes, removed by several thousand generations, than to be obliged to claim an ape as their father, though removed by an equal number of generations.

Whenever men go away from the teachings of the Bible on any subject, they are certain to get into trouble. The Bible says that God created man, and also created all the animals. This explains conditions as we find them in the world today, and no theory of the scientists has ever explained them or can explain them. We prefer to take God's statement of our ancestry and kinship rather than that of any faithless scientists.

The hidden life is a great treasure. Fortune, rank, genius are nothing to it. And character is light. We set it up on high, in towers, on rugged coasts, but a candle in some cottage window may also keep a ship from going on the rocks.—Roswell D. Hitchcock.

BETTER THAN A GIFT OF MONEY

is the gift of making money. A large part of that is the habit of saving, because having capital to work with is one of the first essentials of making money.

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